

missionaries, but often precede them and have distributed the Scriptures in distant and almost inaccessible parts of the continent. It has entered Porto Rico since the Spanish-American War, and in spite of unfavorable conditions, commercial and otherwise, it has distributed several thousand copies of the Scriptures. The Rev. Andrew J. McKim, at present serving the society in Porto Rico, distributed nearly 40,000 copies of the Scriptures in Cuba during twelve years prior to the war. The Rev. J. M. Lopez-Guillen, a native of Madrid, a Congregational minister, educated in the United States, is now its agent in Cuba. No field promises larger results than the Philippine Islands, where the various tribes are cordially welcoming the Scriptures. The British and Foreign and American Bible Societies are working in hearty co-operation in the Philippines, and recent advices from Manila indicate that in spite of the recent disturbances the American Bible Society has a large opportunity there.

The conference opened on Saturday, April 21, and will continue in session ten days. Ex-President Harrison was given a great reception. He delivered an excellent address, from which we quote the following:

With the increase of commerce and wealth, the stress of social difficulties is not relieved, but increases in all of the great nations. The tendency is not to one brotherhood, but to many. Work for the willing at a wage that will save the spirit as well as the body is a problem of increasing tangle and intricacy. Agencies of man's devising may alleviate, but they cannot cure this tendency to division and strife and substitute a drift to peace and unity. Christ in the heart and His Gospel of love and ministry in all the activities of life is the only cure.

The highest conception that has ever entered the mind of man is that God as the Father of all men—the one blood—the universal brotherhood.

The enemies of foreign missions have spoken tauntingly of the slowness of the work, and of its great and disproportionate cost, and we have too exclusively consoled ourselves and answered the criticisms by the suggestion that with God a thousand years is as one day. We should not lose sight of the other side of that truth—one day with Him is as a thousand years.

God has not set a uniform pace for Himself in the work of bringing in the Kingdom of his Son. He will hasten it in his day. The stride of His church shall be so quickened that commerce will be the laggard. Love shall outrun greed. He exacts faith. He will not answer the demand to show a course of stone in His great cathedral for every thousand dollars given. But it may be justly asked that the administrators of our mission treasuries justify their accounts; that they use a business wisdom and economy; that there is no waste; that the work-

men do not hinder each other. The plowing and the sowing must be well done.

Not the least beneficent aspect and influence of this great gathering will be found in the Christian Union that it evidences. The value of this is great at home, but tenfold greater is the mission field, where ecclesiastical divisions suggest diverse prophets. There are many fields; there are diverse arms; the battle is in the bush, and the comrades that are seen are few. A view of the whole army is a good thing; the heart is strengthened by an enlarged comradeship.

Report of the Board of Elders of Ohio

It is generally known that dissatisfaction in the Dayton mission called the Board of Elders of the state of Ohio to that city for the purpose of settling the difficulty. When there is trouble in a congregation it is far better that knowledge of it should be kept within the limits of the church where the trouble arose and where it exists. It has been our policy not to "parade" the difficulties and troubles of local congregations in the columns of the EVANGELIST. But in the case of the Dayton Mission the conditions are different; here is a mission that has been established and supported by the Brethren church of Ohio, and not by the state alone, but it is well known that the mission has received some support from the National Mission Board, as well as from various other sources. Whatever, therefore, transpires within the limits of this congregation or mission is of interest, not alone to the Brethren church in the state of Ohio, but to the whole brotherhood. The very nature of the case demands publicity. It is not a pleasure to make public such a report, but a painful necessity, and it is with feelings of regret that we inform the brotherhood of what the Elders in this case were compelled to do. There was no other way open to them. The report is as follows:

Whereas there is dissatisfaction in the Dayton Brethren church in reference to the ruling of the pastor, Zed. H. Copp, and,

Whereas, forty-five members of said church have expressed their grievances by petitioning the Board of Elders representing the Brethren church of the state of Ohio to assist them in an investigation as to the cause of the dissatisfaction, and adjust the difficulties, and,

Whereas, the said Elders notified the pastor, Zed. H. Copp, and the secretary, of the day and date set for said meeting, being the tenth day of April 1900, and,

Whereas, the said Elders came to Dayton to meet the church, and,

Whereas, Zed. H. Copp and some of the official members positively refused to recognize or accept the said Board of Elders in an official capacity and also refused to open the church house for an investigation, nor permitted them so much as to make an announcement, and,

Whereas, the pastor, Zed. H. Copp, in his sermon on Sabbath morning, April 8, made remarks reflecting, not on the Board of Elders only, but on the church in general, stating among other things that "the church at large in the Johnstown and Winona Conference hindered the Dayton work," that the latter "treated him like a dog;" and that "the Board of

Elders have been the backbone of the trouble in the church;" that the "reason why those coming with authority (the Board of Elders) will not be admitted into the church is found in Phil. 3: 2, 'Beware of dogs; beware of evil workers.'"

Now, therefore, we the Elders, because of the arbitrary rulings of Zed. H. Copp, which we find to be the cause of the trouble in the Dayton Brethren church, suspending members from fellowship without trial or hearing, and because of his entire insubordination, do, by virtue of the authority vested in us by the state conference of Ohio, declare that Zed. H. Copp is no longer a member of the Brethren church, neither those who follow and support him.

Signed,

J. L. KIMMEL, President.

A. D. GNAGEY, Secretary.

JOSIAH KEIM.

The Board of Elders also declare the congregation disorganized, and made arrangements looking toward its reorganization as a mission.

The Pope and Politics

His supposed "Holiness" the Pope, has issued orders that hereafter no Catholic congregation will be permitted to take any part in politics. If such an order had been issued some thousand years ago, and had been religiously observed ever since, it would have been better for the Catholics, and a great deal better for the world. Many a bloody page of history would never have been written. For ages the Pope assumed that the politics of all the nations belonged to him. He was the whole thing. If kings and emperors refused to be bossed by this arch-priest, they were excommunicated and anathematized. At times so great was their power that offending kings were forced to journey to Rome in sack-cloth, and lie prostrate before the Pope while he put his foot on their necks. But times have changed. The genius of Liberty has risen in the world. Popes and priests have been deprived of political power, and it has come to such a pass that neither priest nor preacher can dabble in party politics without endangering his influence and destroying his usefulness. All this is just right. As Mr. Wesley told his Preachers, "You have nothing to do but to save souls." That is the supreme calling of the preacher. Incidentally he exerts a most powerful political influence, for when men are saved morally and spiritually, they are apt to do the right political duty. But for a preacher to indulge in partisan politics is a sad come down from the pedestal of power and influence on which God has placed the Gospel minister.

Program Ohio State Conference

On another page will be found the program for the Ohio State Conference. While the date is named, the place is not. The latter will be decided upon just as soon as possible. Meanwhile let those whose names appear on the program make the necessary preparation, for that should be done no matter where the conference is held. The program is a good one, and we predict an interesting and profitable meeting.

Pastors in the state of Ohio will please note what Brother Miller, secretary of the conference, has to say on another page. Please comply with his request. It is important.